

### REMARKS

The claims now pending in this application are Claims 1, 5-8, 10-16 and 20-29, with Claims 1, 10, 16 and 20 being the independent claims. Claims 3, 4 and 9 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 10-14, 16 and 20 have been amended.

Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-15, and 17-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,084,319 (Kamata, et al.).

However, Applicants note that Claims 4, 10 and 16 have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter, and that Claims 20-26 are allowed.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of Claims 3 and 4. Claims 10 and 16 have been rewritten in independent form, and include the features of Claims 1 and 9. Claims 11-13 have been amended to change their dependency in light of the amendment to Claim 10. Claims 14 and 20 have been amended to attend to a minor informality not related to the patentability of the claims. Support for new Claims 27-29 can be found at least at pages 18-21. No new matter has been added.

In light of this Amendment, Applicants request allowance of the application.

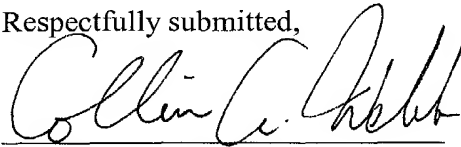
Applicants did not earlier present this Amendment because they believed the application was ready for issue as a result of the last amendment. In addition, the previous Office Action did not indicate any allowable claims, so this Amendment was the first opportunity Applicants had to amend the claims in light of the allowable subject matter. Finally, no new issues requiring additional consideration or search are presented.

Applicants believe the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action, and submit that the present application is in

allowable form. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the present application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Collin A. Webb", written over a horizontal line.

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